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April 7, 2003

Honorable James H. Welsh  
Commissioner of Conservation  
State of Louisiana  
Post Office Box 44275  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-4275

Re: APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

11,500' Sand, BARATARIA FIELD, Jefferson  
Parish, Louisiana.

Dear Sir:

ALPINE EXPLORATION COMPANIES, INC. ("Applicant"), hereby respectfully applies for a public hearing to consider evidence relative to the issuance of Orders pertaining to the following matters relating to the 11,500' Sand in the Barataria Field, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana:

1. To recognize that the 11,500' Sand as defined in, and for which eight (8) drilling and production units were created by, Office of Conservation Order No. 17-D, effective October 29, 1947, is comprised of two separate and distinct pools.
2. To designate the 11,500' Sand pool underlying the seven (7) drilling and production units shown on the attached plat as E-99, E-94, 11500 RA SUF (E-95), 11500 RA SUE (E-32), 11500 RA SUD (E-1), E-132 and E-33 as the 11,500' Sand, Reservoir D.
3. To designate the 11,500' Sand pool underlying the one (1) drilling and production unit shown on the attached plat as E-93 as the 11,500' Sand, Reservoir A.
4. To find with respect to the 11,500' Sand, Reservoir D, that a period of one year and 90 days has elapsed without:

- (a) production from such pool;
- (b) the existence of a well proven capable of producing from the pool;  
and

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5. To discuss such other matters as may be pertinent.

The 11,500' Sand in the Barataria Field, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, was initially defined in Office of Conservation Order No. 17-D, effective October 29, 1947.

Pertinent data concerning this application is available for inspection at the offices of Mr. Joe B. Adams, 9141 Interline Avenue, Suite 3A, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809. Any person wishing to inspect such data should call Mr. Adams at (225) 929-6097 during normal business hours in order to arrange a date and time for such inspection. A copy of any such data which is not otherwise available at the Office of Conservation can be obtained from Applicant at the expense of the requesting party.

By letter dated March 26, 2003, Applicant gave notice, in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure, of its intention to apply for a public hearing concerning these proposals and set April 16, 2003, as the tentative date for the pre-application conference. No request for the pre-application conference was received; accordingly, no pre-application conference was held.

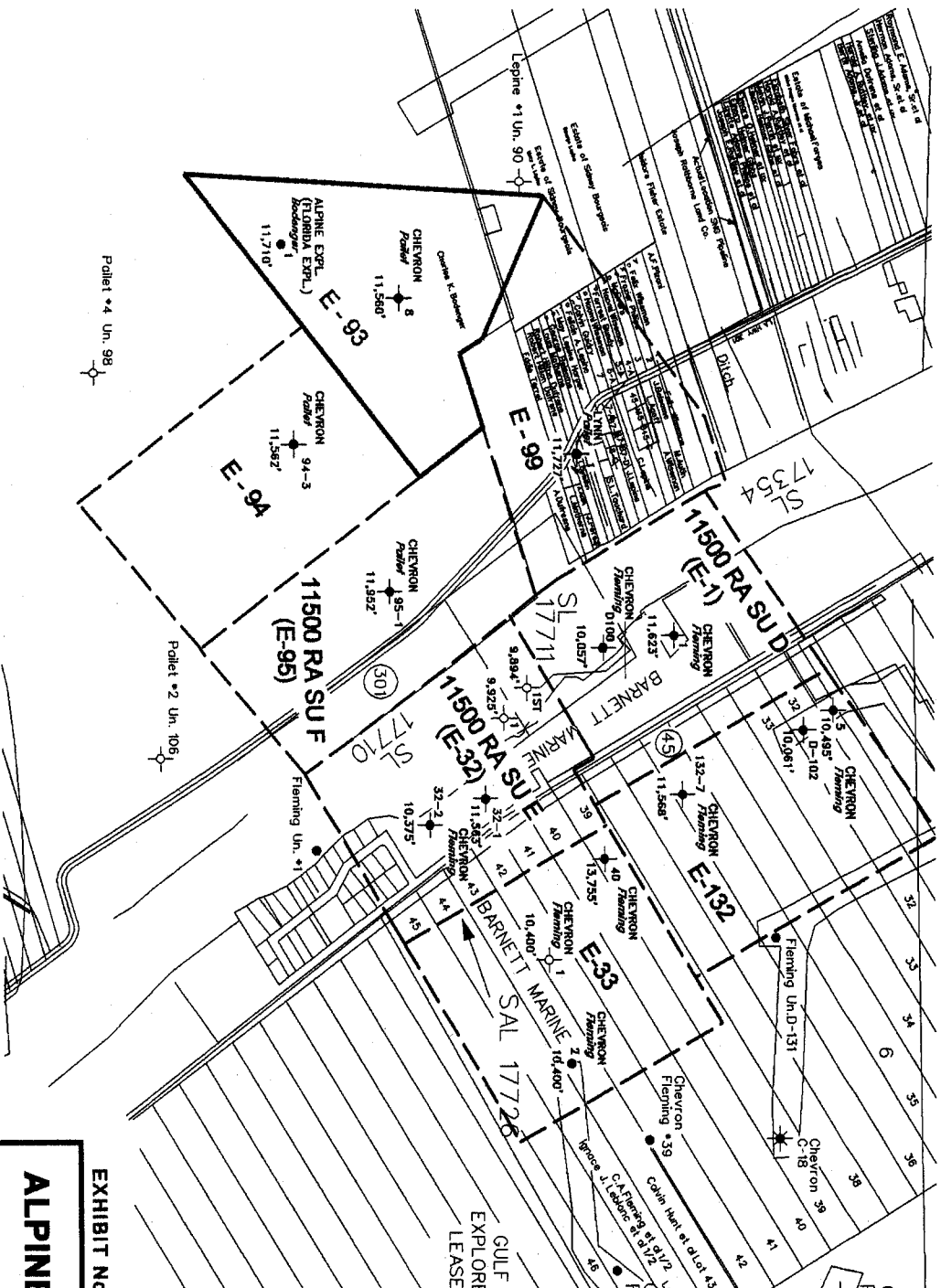
Pursuant to the Revised Rules of Procedure, Applicant has made a reasonable effort to obtain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties to whom notice of this application is being sent and has attached hereto a list of the names and addresses of such parties. A copy of the unit plat (which is identical to the plat attached to the pre-application notice) is enclosed herewith, and a copy of this letter and of the attached plat is being sent to the District Manager of the Lafayette District of the Office of Conservation and to each of the Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties as shown on the attached list.

Applicant will provide for posting of a copy of the Legal Notice of this hearing and the enclosed plat at a prominent place in the area affected and will cause publication of the Legal Notice in a newspaper published in the general area of Barataria Field, all in accordance with the Revised Rules of Procedure. Furthermore, Applicant will mail a copy of the Legal Notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties promptly upon receipt of the Legal Notice from the Commissioner.

Finally, enclosed herewith is our check payable to the Office of Conservation covering the application fee.

Yours very truly,

R 23 E



ALPINE

EXHIBIT NO.

JL

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